

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey, on March 22, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 462, 3/15/2017; HB 541, 3/15/2017

00:00:03 Chair Buttrey

Committee Business:

00:01:20 Sen. Facey

00:01:22 Sen. Small

HEARING ON HB 462

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:44 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 462. Alcohol licenses for community colleges and MUS units for educational purposes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:19 Andy Bixler, graduate student, Montana Association of Students, University of Montana

00:05:10 Jane Karas, president, Flathead Community College (FCC)

EXHIBIT(bus59a01)

00:08:40 Kevin McRae, deputy commissioner, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

00:09:09 Shauna Helfert, Liquor Control Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

00:09:47 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

00:10:56 Brian Smith, co-founder, Blackfoot River Brewing Company (BRBC), Helena

00:12:23 Brian Clark, president, Fun Beverage Incorporated, Kalispell

00:13:05 Matt Leow, executive director, Montana Brewers Association

00:14:11 Kristi Blazer, Montana Beer and Wine Distributors Association (MBWDA)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:14:57 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

00:15:55 Neil Peterson, executive director, Gaming Industry Association of Montana

00:17:10 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:57 Sen. Brown

00:19:18 Mr. McRae, OPI

00:21:19 Sen. Brown

00:21:49 Ms. Helfert, DOR

00:23:09 Sen. Brown

00:23:25 Mr. Smith, BRBC

00:24:11 Sen. Brown

00:25:57 Ms. Karas, FCC

00:27:09 Sen. Facey

00:27:25 Ms. Helfert

00:27:48 Sen. Facey

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00:29:03	Rep. Garner
00:29:53	Sen. Salomon
00:30:41	Ms. Karas
00:33:03	Sen. Salomon
00:33:24	Ms. Helfert
00:34:20	Sen. Salomon
00:34:35	Mr. Iverson, MTA
00:35:07	Sen. Connell
00:35:40	Mr. Iverson
00:35:50	Sen. Connell
00:39:21	Ms. Karas
00:39:54	Sen. Facey
00:40:15	Ms. Karas
00:40:52	Sen. Facey
00:41:08	Mr. Iverson
00:41:34	Sen. Facey
00:41:46	Ms. Blazer, MBWDA
00:42:41	Sen. Smith
00:43:26	Ms. Karas
00:44:05	Chair Buttrey
00:44:48	Ms. Helfert
00:45:22	Chair Buttrey
00:46:27	Mr. McRae
00:46:41	Chair Buttrey
00:50:04	Ms. Karas
00:50:23	Chair Buttrey
00:52:04	Ms. Helfert
00:52:21	Chair Buttrey
00:57:43	Ms. Karas
00:58:06	Chair Buttrey
00:58:54	Rep. Garner redirect
00:59:17	Chair Buttrey
00:59:20	Ms. Helfert
00:59:39	Sen. Brown
01:02:25	Ms. Karas
01:04:00	Sen. Brown
01:04:30	Ms. Helfert
01:05:35	Sen. Connell
01:05:52	Chair Buttrey

Closing by Sponsor:

01:06:08	Rep. Garner
01:09:23	Chair Buttrey

HEARING ON HB 541

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:11:28 Rep. Adam Hertz (R), HD 96, opened the hearing on HB 541. Revise small brewery laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:13:54 Matt Leow, executive director, Montana Brewers Association (MBA)

EXHIBIT(bus59a02)

01:20:27 Kristi Blazer, Montana Beer and Wine Distributors Association (MBWDA)

01:22:30 Brian Clark, president, CEO, Fun Beverage Incorporated (FB), Kalispell

01:27:11 Yuri Knoeller, brewery owner, Bayern Brewing, Missoula

01:33:17 Nolan Smith, president, Montana Brewers Association; co-owner Philipsburg Brewing Company

01:36:54 Levi Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union

01:39:06 Neal Leathers, co-founder, president, Big Sky Brewing Company (BSBC)

01:42:05 Dennis Cox, president, Philipsburg Chamber of Commerce

01:44:19 Joe Willauer, Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D)

01:46:49 Ryan Rickert, PintPass Breweries

01:49:19 Tom Rue, small business owner, Philipsburg

EXHIBIT(bus59a03)

01:51:09 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

01:51:41 John Murray, Summit Solutions, Helena

01:52:27 Annalee Mason, resident, Philipsburg

01:53:47 Brian Smith, co-owner, Blackfoot River Brewing Company, Helena

01:54:50 Mark Hastings, Uberbrew, Billings

01:55:45 Howard McMurry, owner, founder, Madison River Brewing, Belgrade

01:57:29 Jeff Grant, Drought Works Brewery, Missoula

01:59:37 Sarah Sorensen, co-owner, Cabinet Mountain Brewery, Libby

02:03:40 Lauren Silano, co-owner, Neptune's Brewery, Lewiston

02:05:19 Matt Muth, owner, 406 Brewing Company, Bozeman

02:05:36 Patrick Kainz, MAP Brewing, Bozeman

02:06:23 David Sigler, co-owner, Bozeman Brewing; owner, Spanish Peaks Engineering and Consulting

Opponents' Testimony:

02:09:53 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

02:13:46 Bob Miller, Liquor Store Owners Association of Montana

02:17:23 Neil Peterson, Gaming Industry Association

EXHIBIT(bus59a04)

02:25:55 Brad Griffin, Montana Restaurant Association

02:27:08 Jim Johnson, owner, Red Lodge Bar; president, Montana Tavern Association

Informational Testimony:

02:32:16 Shauna Helfert, administrator, Liquor Control Division, Department of Revenue
(DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:32:37 Sen. Vance
02:33:24 Mr. Leathers, BSBC
02:33:35 Sen. Brown
02:35:10 Rep. Hertz redirect
02:37:02 Mr. Leow, MBA
02:37:39 Sen. Facey
02:42:57 Mr. Leow
02:43:43 Sen. Facey
02:43:56 Mr. Clark, FB
02:44:45 Sen. Vuckovich
02:45:27 Chair Buttrey
02:45:52 Sen. Vuckovich
02:49:42 Mr. Iverson, MTA
02:50:17 Sen. Smith
02:51:42 Ms. Helfert, DOR
02:51:57 Chair Buttrey
02:55:32 Ms. Helfert
02:55:51 Chair Buttrey
02:59:22 Mr. Iverson
03:00:48 Chair Buttrey
03:01:09 Mr. Leow
03:02:22 Sen. Facey
03:04:55 Ms. Blazer, MBWDA

Closing by Sponsor:

03:05:19 Rep. Hertz

Committee Business:

03:08:55 Chair Buttrey
03:09:42 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
03:10:22 Chair Buttrey

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:12 AM

Linda Keim, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus59aad.pdf](#))